

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 065734

FOLLOWING STATE 065734 ACTION SANAA LONDON INFO JIDDA
KUWAIT CAIRO ADDIS BEIRUT ALGIERS USUN APR 2ND.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 065734

E.O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC YS PFOR

SUBJ: PDRY INTEREST IN DIALOGUE WITH U.S.; FRANKLIN CASE

REF: OTTAWA 0889

KUWAIT PASS MUSCAT

1. SUBSTANCE UK EMBASSY ADEN CABLE ON VISIT BY CANADIAN
DIPLOMAT TO ADEN FOPLOWS: QUOTE WE WERE ABLE TO TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF THE RECENT VISIT OF A CANADIAN DIPLOMATIC
REPRESENTATIVE FROM CAIRO TO MEET SAID KHUBARA, THE HEAD
OF THE WESTERN DEPARTMENT IN THE PDRY MFA, INFORMALLY.
IT WAS MADE VERY CLEAR DURING THESE MEETINGS THAT THE
PROPOSED VISIT OF CONGRESSMAN FINDLEY IS GREATLY DESIRED
AND EAGERLY AWAITED. IN ORDER TO TRY TO ENSURE THAT SUCH
A VISIT WILL TAKE PLACE IT WAS STRONGLY IMPLIED THAT NO
ACTION COULD BE EXPECTED ON THE FRANKLIN CASE UNTIL THE
CONGRESSMAN'S ARRIVAL BUT A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION COULD
THEN BE EXPECTED. DURING THE CONGRESSMAN'S VISIT, WE
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WERE LEFT IN NO DOUBT THAT BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN

THE TWO COUNTRIES WOULD BE BROUGHT UP AND THAT IT WAS KHUBARA'S HOPE, AT LEAST, THAT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS COULD BE RE-ESTABLISHED. A MAJOR AIM WOULD BE TO RET US AID IN ORDER TO LESSEN THE PDRY'S DEPENDENCE ON SOVIET BLOC

COUNTRIES OR, AS KHUBARA PUT IT, TO DIVERSIFY THE PAY-MASTERS. UNQUOTE.

2. AT OUR REQUEST UK EMBASSY WASHINGTON HAS ASKED FOR EMBASSY ADEN ASSESSMENT TO WHAT DEGREE LAST SENTENCE ABOVE REPRESENTS KHUBARA'S PERSONAL HOPE RATHER THAN CONSIDERED PDRY POLICY.

3. MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVE PAUL FINDLEY OF ILLINOIS AND PDRY UN PERMANENT REP ABDULLAH AL-ASHTAL IN NEW YORK MARCH 27 TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE FINDLEY TRIP TO ADEN WENT VERY WELL. AL-ASHTAL URGED FINDLEY TO VISIT ADEN AND TO MEET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MUTI' IN NEW YORK. MUTI' WILL ARRIVE FOR SPECIAL UNGA SESSION APRIL 10. AL-ASHTAL SAID PDRY WOULD ARRANGE LODGING FOR CONGRESSMAN AND HOPED HE COULD SPEND 3-4 DAYS IN ADEN. AL-ASHTAL REACTED NEGATIVELY TO POSSIBILITY OF CONGRESSMAN'S MAKING ANY PUBLIC STATEMENTS ABOUT TRIP, INDICATING PDRY WISHES NO PUBLICITY. FINDLEY SAID HE WOULD PLAN TO VISIT ADEN DURING THE FIRST WEEK IN MAY. AL-ASHTAL DID NOT FORECLOSE POSSIBILITY FINDLEY'S BRINGING FRANKLIN BACK TO U.S. WITH HIM FROM ADEN. AL-ASHTAL SAID HE FORESAW NO TROUBLE IN CONGRESSMAN'S SEEING PDRY PRIME MINISTER MUHAMMAD AND PERHAPS PRESIDENT ALI. HE INDICATED THAT SEVERAL ARAB STATES, INCLUDING EGYPT, HAD APPROACHED HIS GOVERNMENT REGARDING FRANKLIN CASE. AL-ASHTAL GAVE CONGRESSMAN FINDLEY NO ENCOURAGEMENT REGARDING TORHAN.

4. PDRY/US--COMMENTING THAT ADE HAD BEEN A THRIVING PORT WHEN THE SUEZ CANAL WAS OPEN, AL-ASHTAL SAID QUOTE WE ARE PLEASED THAT THE CANAL WILL REOPEN AND WE APPRECIATE AMERICA'S ROLE IN GETTING IT REOPENED. WE DO NOT WISH CONFRONTATION WITH U.S., ASHTAL CONTINUED, AND WE KNOW OF NO IMPORTANT ISSUES OUTSTANDING WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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THE UNITED STATES UNQUOTE. ASHTAL ADDED THAT ONLY QUOTE MINOR UNQUOTE IRRITANT WHICH HE COULD THINK OF WAS CLOSE US ASSOCIATION WITH SAUDI ARABIA.

5. WE HAVE BRIEFED UK EMBASSY HERE ON FINDLEY/ASHTAL CONVERSATION. CONGRESSMAN FINDLEY ASKS THAT BRITISH NOT RPT NOT INDICATE KNOWLEDGE SUBSTANCE FINDLEY/ASHTAL CONVERSATION TO ANY PDRY OFFICIAL.

6. CONGRESSMAN FINDLEY'S MEETING WITH PDRY FOREIGN
MINISTER WILL HOPEFULLY EITHER CORROBORATE OR CLARIFY
SURPRISINGLY FRIENDLY OVERTURES FROM AL-ASHTAL AND
KHUBARA.

RUSH UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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